

# Concord Village Voice ♦ December 2019

**Village of Concord:** 110 Hanover Street-PO Box 306 Concord, MI 49237 / 524-8534 / M-Th: 8am– 6pm

## Village of Concord Contact Information

### Village President:

Jeremy Bush: 414-4104-jbush@villageofconcord.com

### Village Council:

Jeff Jackson: 524-7407-jjackson@villageofconcord.com

Tom Norris: 937-3679-tnorris@villageofconcord.com

Tim Casey: 740-6260 -tcasey@villageofconcord.com

Ashley Meeks: 206-0435-ameeks@villageofconcord.com

Mike Lovitt: 607-1720 -mlovitt@villageofconcord.com

Kyle George: 930-4262-kgeorge@villageofconcord.com

Clerk: Judy Lefere-clerk@villageofconcord.com

Treasurer: Colleen Gibbs-treasurer@villageofconcord.com

Fire Chief: Lloyd Mosher-concordfiredepartment@yahoo.com

DPW: Jason Blossom-jblossom@villageofconcord.com

## Village Meeting Dates and Times

All meetings are held in the Village Commons and are open to the public. Come participate in your local government!

Village Council: December 10th & TBD — 7:00pm

Parks & Recreation: December 3rd — 7:00pm

Planning Commission: December 17th— 6:30pm

Fire Board: December 18th— 6:00pm - Meeting at Fire House

## Concord United Methodist Church

The Hangout, After School Program Every Mon. & Wed. 3-5 pm at Concord United Methodist Church, 119 S. Main St., 524-6156. All students grade 6<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup> welcome, a safe place for students to go afterschool, adult supervised, help with homework, play games, interact and have fun! Newly Renovated!! WIFI AVAILABLE! Bring a friend and join us.

ABC Academy is now offering Preschool and Latch Key services for Concord Community Schools!

Our programs include:

Full and Half Day Preschool for children ages 33 months to 4 years of age

State-funded Free GSRP Preschool for children 4 years of age

Before and After School Latch Key Program

Music & Yoga Enrichment Programs

S.T.E.M. Curriculum and Technology Centers

Security Access Doors

Electronic Parent Communication System

Please contact Cody Blair, Program Director, at

[cody@abcacademyjackson.com](mailto:cody@abcacademyjackson.com) or by phone at 517-740-0167 if you are

interested in enrolling your child in our high-quality programs. Visit our website for more information [www.abcacademyjackson.com](http://www.abcacademyjackson.com)

ABC Academy – a great place for your child to grow, learn, and succeed!

## Concord Heritage House December Event

Home Tour

December 4th

Members and Guests Only.

For more information contact Gail Snow:

[gailpsnow@yahoo.com](mailto:gailpsnow@yahoo.com)

## Concord and Pulaski Wreaths Across America TM

ceremony will be held on Saturday, December 14th at noon at Concord Maple Grove Cemetery. To sponsor a wreath for a veteran in any of the eight Concord Pulaski cemeteries, please send a check for \$15 made out to Concord Pulaski Memorial

American Legion Aux. 81. Mail to

Chaplain Brenda Walters, 211 S. Main St.,

Concord, MI 49237. You may place the wreath yourself or have a volunteer do it for you. This year we are asking

students from all grades to participate in the ceremony. Please contact Brenda Walters to sign up your child(ren). Our mission is to remember those that served, honor those who are serving and teach the children that freedom is never free.

## FOR RENT:

Village of Concord has a 2-3-bedroom apartment for rent, above the Village Office. Rent is \$650.00 per month and includes water, sewer, garbage and electricity. Phone, cable, heat & internet is not included. Security deposit of \$650.00 is required. NO PETS AND NO SMOKING ALLOWED. Pick up an application at the Village Office, 110 Hanover Street. Any questions, please call 517-524-8534.

## Concord District Library's Upcoming Events

Let's Share a Story: Open Hours. Children

Yoga:—Saturday's @ 10:00 am. Bring your yoga mat and bottled water. \$3.00 suggested donation. Adults.

**NO YOGA ON SATURDAY DECEMBER 28th!**

Sensory Brain Games: December 9th from 10 am to 6 pm. Ages 0-5.

Sneaky Snow Snatcher: December 10th 4 pm. Ages 8-12.

Holiday Open House: December 13th @ 7 pm. All Ages.

## Village Voice—Village of Concord Website

Do you have community information you want included in the Village Voice or on Village of Concord Website? Call Village Office. Email: [office@villageofconcord.com](mailto:office@villageofconcord.com). All info. must be submitted a week or more prior to the beginning of the month. The submission deadline for the January issue is December 18th.

## GRANGER GARBAGE/RECYCLE INFO

You may have three additional bags of garbage outside of bin if you have 90 gal trash bin!

Garbage Pick Up: At curb by 6am Tuesday morning.

**Blue Bag Recycling Program Begins in December.**

Village Council Meeting Minutes-October 22, 2019 Absent: View at [www.villageofconcord.com](http://www.villageofconcord.com) or pickup hard copy at Village Office

Motioned by A. Meeks, seconded by T. Casey, to accept the minutes from the 10/8/2019 meeting as presented Motion approved by all.

Motioned by J. Bush, seconded by K. George, to accept the minutes from the 10/15/2019 Planning Committee & Master Plan Open House meeting. Motion approved by all.

Public Comments:

K. Wyatt commented on the number of people in attendance at the Planning Meeting and Master Plan Open House.

Motioned by A. Meeks, seconded by K. George, to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$15,167.29 . Motion approved by all.

Expense Approval Water Main Project in the amount of \$5,664.10 was presented. Motioned by J. Bush, seconded by K. George, to approve the payment of Expense for Water main Project in the amount of \$5,664.10. Motion approved by all.

J. Blossom stated the water infrastructure replacement project will begin the middle of November. He also mentioned the new railing going up in front of the Village Office is being completed by Jackson Industrial and should be done by the end of the week, weather permitting. He discussed the parking lot at Gottschalk Park, and the Village's plan to have covered with asphalt millings removed from Village streets as part of upcoming water infrastructure replacement project. The millings from Village streets will not be available until spring and summer and the park is really busy in the spring and summer. Blossom spoke with Concord Excavating and worked out deal in which they will use millings Concord Excavating currently have in stock and the Village will replace the millings stock in the spring and summer when the water project is completed. J. Blossom also discussed a lot on Coxon Street that the Village had the first right of refusal before it went to the tax sale. The property was purchased by M. Reynolds. There is a small right away area behind the apartments on Railroad Street which is owned by the Village and M. Reynolds wanted to know if the Village had plans for this area and would it be interested in getting rid of it? The Council is okay with getting rid of this as long as she covers the costs associated with the land transfer. Blossom also mentioned that to stay in compliance with the USDA loan and the rate study done by MRWA the water rates need to increase each year according to the cost of living rate. J. Blossom also wanted to schedule the employee review date for all Village employees. The date was set for November 26, 2019. He also mentioned that he and clerk J. Lefere have been working on the 2020 budget and should have it to J. Bush for review soon. Blossom also mentioned that there was recent sewer inspection and everything checked out well. J. Blossom presented to the Council the cost of a new dump truck the Village is in need of. The cost for the truck chassis will be \$79,740.00 from D&K Truck Company and the cost for the upfit of dump box, snow plow, salt spreader, leaf box, lighting, etc. will be \$81,749.00 for a total cost of \$161,489.00. Motioned by A. Meeks, seconded by J. Jackson to purchase a dump truck for \$161,489.00 to be paid from the 2020 budget.

J. Bush discussed the Planning Commission and Concord Area Master Plan Open House meeting. Bush stated the Village's Planning Committee approved the plan and based on the recommendations of the MEDC there was only one change added to the Concord Area Master Plan, it was on page 39 and reads as follows:

3. In the Village of Concord, transition the Downtown Commercial District into a Mixed-Use Commercial District to accommodate commercial and residential uses that are compatible with the preservation and reuse of existing historic buildings while creating an area where people can affordably live, work, socialize, play, and shop.

Motioned by J. Bush, seconded by J. Jackson to approve the Concord Area Master Plan as presented. All were in favor. Motion approved.

Before The Concord Area Master Plan is sent on to the State it still needs to be approved by the Township Planning Committee and the Township Board, and then will be sent on to Jackson County Commissioners for approval as well.

J. Bush stated Village Treasurer C. Gibbs would like to invest \$50,000 in another CD at 3% interest. Motioned by J. Bush, seconded by T. Casey to invest \$50,000.00 in a CD at American I C.U. at 3% interest. Approved by J. Bush, T. Casey, T. Norris, K. George. A. Meeks and J. Jackson abstained. Motion approved.

Council Comments:

A. Meeks presented the 2020 Fire Department budget to the Council. The Fire Department is asking for a \$3,000.00 increase in the budget for extra trainings that will be taking place. \$1,500.00 will be for the Village and \$1,500.00 will be for the Township. Motioned by A. Meeks, seconded by J. Bush to approve the Village Fire budget in the amount of \$62,057.50. All were in favor. Motion approved.

A. Meeks also informed the council the Fire Department purchased a suburban to be the new rescue vehicle and it will replace the F550 rescue vehicle.

J. Bush discussed the small piece of land on Mill St. that is owned by the Village. A person had requested to put their canoe in at this location. He was given permission however he was not given permission to drive on the property. He has put ruts in the land and has since been asked to not drive on the property.

Village Council Meeting Minutes– November 12, 2019 Absent: View at [www.villageofconcord.com](http://www.villageofconcord.com) or pickup hard copy at Village Office

Motioned by T. Norris, seconded by K. George, to accept the minutes from the 10/22/2019 meeting, as presented The motion was approved by all.

Public Comments:

G. Schuette attended the meeting to introduce himself as he is running for Jackson County Sheriff in the 2020 election. He described his past experience in law enforcement and would be happy to answer any questions.

Motioned by K. George, seconded by M. Lovitt, to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$76,551.49 . Motion approved by all.

L. Jacobson discussed his October Blotter which has designed to have the format of a newspaper. He discussed the recent burglaries, there is a suspect and he is working with the MSP and the Calhoun County Sheriff Department. He also discussed the concern for the swan on the Millpond. The DNR has been contacted but it is deer hunting season and that takes priority. Nature may ultimately take care of this.

J. Blossom discussed a letter he received from the EGLE regarding the sewer lagoon inspection. The lagoon is well maintained and is in compliance with all permit requirements and limits. He also informed the council that a cost of living increase for water rates is not required but recommended. J. Blossom mentioned that weather permitting leaf pickup may or may not continue. If a resident wants to ensure their leaves get picked up, they should bag them and the DPW crew will pick up.

J. Bush discussed an email the Village received from a resident regarding designated Trick or Treat times in the Village. Motioned by M. Lovitt, seconded by K. George to make 6pm to 8pm the official Trick or Treat time for the Village of Concord. All were in favor. Motion approved.

J. Bush stated that it was time for employee reviews. All employees requested to have their employee reviews conducted in a closed meeting.

Motioned by J. Bush, seconded by K. George to adjourn open meeting at 7:23. Motion approved by all.

Motioned by J. Bush, seconded by K. George to enter closed meeting at 7:25. Motion approved by all.

Motioned by J. Bush, seconded by M. Lovitt to adjourn closed meeting at 8:26. Motion approved by all.

Motioned by J. Bush, seconded by K. George to return to open meeting at 8:26. Motion approved by all.

Motioned by J. Bush, seconded by M. Lovitt to give DPW employee N. Kidder a .50 increase taking him to \$15.00 per hour. Motion approved by all.

Motioned by J. Bush, seconded by K. George to give DPW employee K. Thomas a .75 increase taking him to \$20.25 per hour. Motion approved by all.

Motioned by J. Bush, seconded by J. Jackson to give DPW Director J. Blossom a 1.12 increase taking him to \$24.50 per hour. Motion approved by all.

Motioned by J. Bush, seconded by J. Jackson to give Clerk J. Lefere a .75 increase taking her to \$22.25 per hour. Motion approved by all.

Motioned by J. Bush, seconded by K. George to give Treasurer C. Gibbs a .75 increase taking her to \$23.25 per hour. Motion approved by all.

Council Comments:

None.